

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1, 23-25 and 30-31. Please amend claims 2-5, 8, 26 and 28-29 as shown below. Please add new claims 32-41 as shown below. A full listing of all claims is as follows:

1. (Canceled)
2. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising a coating filter coupled to the coating chamber.
3. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the vibration source is either a conveyor belt, a disc, a plate or an acoustic diaphragm.
4. (Currently Amended) ~~The apparatus of claim 1~~ An apparatus for coating a medical device comprising:
a coating chamber;
a vibration source, the vibration source capable of suspending a medical device positioned in the coating chamber; and
a coating source, the coating source positioned to introduce coating into the coating chamber;
 wherein the coating source includes a nozzle coupled to a supply of coating.

5. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 4 wherein the vibration source is positioned below a screen.
6. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 5 wherein the vibration source is capable of generating pressure waves of compressible fluid containing enough energy to lift a medical device located on the screen away from the screen.
7. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 4 wherein the nozzle is positioned beneath the vibration source.
8. (Currently Amended) ~~The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising:~~ An apparatus for coating a medical device comprising:
a coating chamber;
a vibration source, the vibration source capable of suspending a medical device positioned in the coating chamber; and
a coating source, the coating source positioned to introduce coating into the coating chamber;
a power source coupled to the vibration source; and
a controller controlling the power source and providing instructions to vibrate the vibration source at a predetermined frequency.
9. - 25. (Canceled)

26. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for coating a medical implant comprising:

a coating area sized to accept medical implants for implantation within the body of a patient ~~having an implant entrance and an implant exit;~~

~~a vibration source positioned beneath the coating area;~~

a source of therapeutic coating having an exit point in fluid communication with the coating area; ~~and~~

a screen positioned at the bottom of ~~between the vibration source and the coating area~~; ~~and~~

~~the coating area sized to accept medical implants for implantation within the body of a patient~~ means for forcing the medical implants to move above the screen during the coating process.

27. (Canceled)

28. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 26 29 wherein the coating area is a confined space having an entrance and an exit,

the ~~vibration source~~ conveyor belt configured to urge a medical device in the coating area away from the entrance of the confined space and towards the exit of the confined space.

29. (Currently Amended) ~~The apparatus of claim 26~~ An apparatus for coating a medical implant comprising:

a coating area sized to accept medical implants for implantation within the body of a patient;

a vibration source positioned beneath the coating area; and
a source of therapeutic coating having an exit point in fluid communication with the
coating area;

wherein the vibration source is a moving conveyor belt.

30.-31. (Canceled)

32. (New) The apparatus of claim 26 wherein the means for forcing the medical implants to move above the screen during the coating process comprises a vibration source positioned beneath the coating area.

33. (New) The apparatus of claim 26 wherein the means for forcing the medical implants to move above the screen during the coating process comprises a nozzle.

34. (New) The apparatus of claim 26 wherein the means for forcing the medical implants to move above the screen during the coating process comprises a vibration source positioned beneath the coating area and a nozzle.

35. (New) The apparatus of claim 26 wherein the means for forcing the medical implants to move above the screen during the coating process comprises a gas flow structure.

36. (New) An apparatus for coating a medical implant comprising:
a coating area sized to accept medical implants for implantation within the body of a patient;
means for supplying a therapeutic coating into the coating area; and
means for suspending the medical implants in the coating area during the coating process.
37. (New) The apparatus of claim 36 wherein the means for suspending the medical implants in the coating area during the coating process comprises a vibration structure.
38. (New) The apparatus of claim 37 wherein the vibration structure is either a conveyor belt, a disc, a plate or an acoustic diaphragm.
39. (New) The apparatus of claim 36 wherein the means for suspending the medical implants in the coating area during the coating process comprises a nozzle.
40. (New) The apparatus of claim 36 wherein the means for suspending the medical implants in the coating area during the coating process comprises a vibration structure and a nozzle.
41. (New) The apparatus of claim 36 wherein the means for suspending the medical implants in the coating area during the coating process comprises a gas flow structure.